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ELECTION EQUIPMENT TESTING TO ENSURE ACCURACY

Voting equipment to undergo scrutiny to ensure logic, accuracy counts

In an effort to ensure that every Contra Costa vote is counted completely and accurately, technicians from the Elections Division are in the process of testing all pieces of the voting equipment that will be used in the June 7th, 2016 Presidential Primary Election.

The central-count voting system for vote-by-mail ballots and the scanners for paper ballots located at each polling place are being tested for logic and accuracy. The AutoMARK ballot-marking equipment aimed at helping the visually impaired vote is also tested at this time since it interacts with those counting systems.

The series of tests starts by charging all of the machines to make sure they are in working order and functioning properly, followed by a series of test ballots running through each machine to make sure they are properly programmed and pick up the intended ballot marks.

There are seven central count machines that will record results for approximately 400,000 vote-by-mail ballot cards, along with about 300 ballot scanners at polling places throughout the county.

The public is always invited to check out the testing in action. The Public Demonstration of the testing of the M650 Central Count Ballot Scanners is scheduled for 9:00 am on May 27th at the Contra Costa Clerk-Recorder-Elections Office, 555 Escobar Street in Martinez. Visitors are asked to check-in at the Elections lobby.

For more information, call 925-335-7800.

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